GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2739
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2003
GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of measures initiated/taken by the Government to reduce the Government expenditure during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of Government staff reduced in downsizing the Government and result achieved during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether the Union Government has issued necessary directives to all the State Governments and various Ministries and Government Departments in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the result achieved in this regard so far?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Anandrao V.Adsul)

(a) It is the Government`s constant endeavour to control non-plan non-developmental expenditure. In this context instructions to avoid wasteful expenditure are issued from time to time to all the Ministries/Departments which include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restriction on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, restriction on STD/ISD facility, restriction on number of free calls on official residential telephones, etc.

(b) to (e): As a result of implementation of ERC recommendations, around 16,900 posts have been abolished. Ministry of Personnel & Public Grievances have issued orders to all the Ministries/Departments of Government of India restricting the direct recruitment to 1/3 of the annual direct recruitment vacancies subject to the condition that this does not exceed one percent of the total strength of a particular Department. During the past three years, around 51,000 posts have been identified for abolition:

Year	No. of posts identified for abolition
2000-01	16,331
2001-02	27,693
2002-03	7,027